

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

STATEMENT ON THE BASEBALL HALL OF FAME'S INDUCTION OF CAL RIPKEN, JR.

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 30, 2007

Ms. PELOSI. Madam Speaker, I rise to congratulate an outstanding athlete and role model, Cal Ripken, Jr., on his induction into the Baseball Hall of Fame. As a native Baltimorean, I am honored to have this chance to pay tribute to a man who has given so much of himself to the people of Baltimore, to their beloved Orioles, and to the game of baseball itself.

The outpouring of love and affection we witnessed at Cal's induction ceremony this Sunday in Cooperstown was a fitting tribute to a man whose love for the game and dedication to his craft knew no bounds. Greeted by a record crowd for a Hall of Fame induction ceremony estimated at 75,000—so many of whom traveled north from the Baltimore area—Cal again showed why he is held in the highest esteem by fans across America and by his fellow Hall of Fame members.

Cal Ripken's accomplishments on the field made him a certain first ballot Hall of Fame member. Cal exploded onto the baseball scene in 1982 and was named American League Rookie of the Year. He would twice win the League's Most Valuable Player award, his first honor coming in only his second full season, in which he also helped lead the Orioles to a World Series title. Over his 21-year Oriole career, Ripken compiled 3,184 hits—including 431 home runs—was selected to represent the American League in the All-Star Game 19 times, and won two Gold Gloves.

Of course, Cal is best remembered for breaking one of baseball's most cherished records when he surpassed Lou Gehrig's mark of 2,130 consecutive games played. A time when some thought interest in baseball was waning, Cal Ripken's "Iron Man" streak renewed America's love affair with our national pastime and helped create a new generation of baseball fans. The Streak was more than just a personal record; it was Cal's daily lesson to us all about how the game should be played.

Cal's dedication and respect to the game was engrained in him by his father, the late Cal Ripken, Sr., who spent 36 years in the Orioles organization and piloted the Orioles through the 1987 season. In a loving tribute during his induction speech, Cal said of his father, "He was for me and many others an example of how to play and prepare for the game the right way—the Cal Sr. way."

For Oriole fans, this past Sunday was a special moment as we watched Cal unveil his Hall of Fame plaque surrounded by so many Oriole stars of the past, including Brooks Robinson, Frank Robinson, Eddie Murray, Jim Palmer, and former Oriole manager Earl Weaver. It brought back so many wonderful memo-

ries of summers past at Memorial Stadium and Camden Yards. It also made me proud remembering the role my father, Thomas D' Alesandro, played in bringing the franchise to Baltimore in 1954 when he was the city's mayor.

For many, Cal's Hall of Fame induction was a mere formality because we already knew his play on the field and his positive demeanor off it had earned him a place among baseball's immortals. I congratulate him on this tremendous honor and look forward to his continuing contributions to the greater Baltimore community.

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SOUTHERN CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 30, 2007

Ms. PELOSI. Madam Speaker, 50 years ago next month, a group of courageous champions of civil rights united to form the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC), which became a driving force behind the fight for equality and economic opportunity for African Americans. Led by the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, the SCLC's commitment to non-violent civil disobedience exposed the evils of segregation and the violence and intimidation necessary to enforce this immoral policy.

The heroic efforts of the SCLC and the great faith and courage of its members were indispensable to the epic and defining struggle of our history: to secure rights for all and to live up to the purpose for which this nation was founded—equality and justice for all.

At the March on Washington for Freedom and Jobs, where Dr. King delivered his famous "I Have a Dream" speech, the SCLC created a turning point in the national debate over civil rights, helping propel passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Voting Rights Act of 1965. These twin victories shattered the policy of segregation and reaffirmed our nation's commitment to equality for all of our citizens. The SCLC changed the nation with a vision of justice, equality, and opportunity for all.

Today, the SCLC continues its commitment to improving the lives of African Americans, focusing on issues of economic empowerment, access to health care, and opportunity through education. On the occasion of its 50th anniversary, I honor the SCLC for its commitment to positive social change through direct action and non-violence, and I look forward to the victories we will achieve together in the name of equal justice and equality for all Americans.

CONGRATULATING LEE MCGILVRAY ON RETIREMENT

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 30, 2007

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mr. Lee McGilvray of Denton, Texas on his retirement from the City of Denton Solid Waste Department.

Mr. McGilvray held employment in the City of Denton for 39 years and 33 days. For nearly 4 decades, Mr. McGilvray has provided the service that makes our everyday lives easier. He worked both in the Commercial Division as well as the Landfill Operations Division.

Mr. McGilvray is also a valued member of the Solid Waste Road-e-o Team. A vehicle obstacle course, Road-e-o gives drivers the opportunity to demonstrate their skills that are highly developed but often unnoticed by the general public. He placed 1st place in the state dozer competition in 2005, 3rd place in the national dozer competition in 2005 and 3rd place in the state dozer competition in 2006. The Road-e-o Team represents the department at statewide and national Road-e-o events aimed at promoting the safe operation of heavy equipment through competitions.

I extend my sincere congratulations to Mr. Lee McGilvray on his retirement. His dedication and commitment to serving the citizens of Denton made us all lead better lives. Thank you.

COMMENDING DICK ARMEY'S OP-ED ON THE MEK

HON. THOMAS G. TANCREDO

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 30, 2007

Mr. TANCREDO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend the following op-ed about the MEK to the body. This is an important topic and I hope Members will have an opportunity to review it.

Thank you, Madam Speaker.

[July 24, 2007]

EMPOWERING THE DEMOCRATIC OPPOSITION IN IRAN

(By Dick Arme)

During the Cold War, the free world was threatened by a nuclear-armed state based on a radical, all-encompassing and discredited ideology, a regime that projected an aggressive agenda of global domination even as it struggled to keep its own dissatisfied citizens in line back home. While America and her allies maintained a resolute posture of military strength to keep Soviet expansionism in check, ultimately it was our example of freedom that inspired the restive peoples living under the Evil Empire to tear down the wall.

Taking a leaf out of history's notebook, there are striking similarities between the

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